

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07  
ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15  
/136 W

-----107705 201955Z /45

R 200347Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8206  
INFO USDOC WASHDC  
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS TAIPEI 04672

GENEVA FOR MTN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, TW  
SUBJECT: LIBERALIZATION OF TAIWAN'S IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

1. EFFECTIVE JULY 14, 1978 ROC'S BOARD OF FOREIGN TRADE  
LIBERALIZED IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON 1,146 ITEMS. OF THESE  
1,045 WERE PREVIOUSLY SUBJECT TO AREA RESTRICTIONS  
PRIMARILY FROM JAPAN, AND 101 WERE PREVIOUSLY ON THE  
CONTROLLED LIST UNDER WHICH IMPORTS FROM ANY SOURCE WERE  
BANNED.

2. EMBASSY IS NOW PREPARING AN AIRGRAM PROVIDING DETAILED  
LISTING OF THE 1,045 COMMODITY ITEMS.

3. OF THE 101 ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONTROLLED LIST AND  
NOW FREE TO BE IMPORTED MOST ARE SO-CALLED LUXURY ITEMS  
CONSISTING OF PRECIOUS AND SEMI PRECIOUS STONES AND  
JEWELRY IN THE FOLLOWING GENERAL CATEGORIES OF CHINESE

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COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION (CCC) CODES: 0412, 1918, 8401,  
8404, 8405, 8408, 8409, 8920 AND 9206. OTHER ITEMS  
DECONTROLLED ARE FRESH PEARS, CCC CODE 0120-11 AND REFINED  
SALT (TABLE SALT), CCC CODE 2934-00. ALTHOUGH TABLE SALT  
HAS BEEN DECONTROLLED, ITS IMPORTATION IS LIMITED TO  
STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES. 0IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS  
ARE DECONTROLLED BUT WILL REQUIRE SPECIAL PERMITS TO

BE ISSUED BY THE ROC ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION: THORIUM OXIDE (5268-30), YTRIUM COMPOUNDS - EXCLUDING NATURAL COMPOUNDS (5268-40), SCANDIUM COMPOUNDS (5268-50), RARE EARTH METAL COMPOUNDS (5268-60) AND COMPOUNDS AND MIXTURES, N.E.S. OF THORIUM, URANIUM, RARE EARTH METALS, OR OF SCANDIUM (5268-90).

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: THE LIBERALIZATION IS ONE OF THE COMPLEMENTARY MEASURES TO THE RECENT REVALUATION WHICH ARE AIMED AT REDUCING THE INFLATIONARY PRESSURE. TARIFF REDUCTIONS ARE ALSO NOW BEING PROMULGATED. THE LIBERALIZATION AND TARIFF REDUCTIONS SHOULD OPEN UP THE DOMESTIC MARKET TO INCREASED IMPORTS, THEREBY REDUCING THE MASSIVE TRADE SURPLUS OCCURRING DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1978. THE LIBERALIZATION HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY THE ROC GOVERNMENT AS A SIGNIFICANT MOVE TOWARD A NEW "FREE TRADE" POLICY. CHIEF BENEFICIARY OF LIFTING OF AREA RESTRICTIONS WILL, OF COURSE, BE JAPAN. DESPITE THE YEN'S APPRECIATION DURING THE LAST YEAR, LOCAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT MANY JAPANESE-MADE COMMODITIES SUCH AS PLASTICS, SYNTHETIC FIBER, ELECTRONIC CALCULATORS, COSMETICS, AIR COMPRESSORS, AUTOMOBILE PARTS, LIGHTER PARTS, ETC. WILL AGAIN DOMINATE TAIWAN'S IMPORT MARKET. THESE IMPORTS HAD BEEN BANNED FROM JAPAN AND PERMITTED ONLY FROM EUROPE AND AMERICA. US MANUFACTURERS OF JEWELRY (OTHER THAN COSTUME JEWELRY) SHOULD HAVE GOOD UNCLASSIFIED

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PROSPECTS FOR PENETRATING THE TAIWAN MARKET. UNGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, TRADE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** LIBERALIZATION OF TAIWAN'S IMPORT RESTRICTIONS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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